

UNOC 3

SIDE EVENT

Accelerating Adaptation and Enhancing Resilience from the Mediterranean Lands to the Sea

ORGANISED BY:

CROATIAN MINISTRY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AND GREEN TRANSITION

PRIORITY ACTIONS PROGRAMME/
REGIONAL ACTIVITY CENTRE (PAP/RAC)

9 JUNE
2025

17:30 – 18:45

ROOM 3
BLUE ZONE



2.1
Mediterranean
Coastal Zones Climate
Resilience Water Security
and Habitat Protection



Mediterranean
Action Plan
Barcelona
Convention



REPUBLIKA HRVATSKA
Ministarstvo zaštite okoliša
i zelene tranzicije

Summary

This event explores the ocean as the final recipient of all waters - linking landscapes, communities, and ecosystems in an unbreakable cycle. As the Mediterranean faces growing climate pressures like sea level rise, extreme weather, and coastal flooding, integrated planning is vital to adapt and build resilience across the land-sea interface.

For nearly 50 years, [PAP/RAC](#) has led efforts under the [UNEP/MAP](#) framework to advance Integrated Coastal Zone Management (ICZM) and Marine Spatial Planning (MSP).

From Coastal Area Management Programmes (CAMPs), Coastal Plans to Marine Spatial Plans, these initiatives connect global challenges with local action through inclusive, multi-level processes that strengthen governance and trust.

This side event will:

- Showcase integrated approach through Coastal Plans and MSPs,
- Share experiences from Croatia and the Adriatic-Ionian region,
- Highlight solutions to land-sea conflicts, coastal overdevelopment, and climate change impacts,
- Emphasize regional cooperation, capacity building, and ecosystem-based planning.

Join us to exchange ideas, foster partnerships, and explore how integrated governance can ensure a resilient and sustainable Mediterranean, aligned with the [Barcelona Convention](#), [ICZM Protocol](#), and regional objectives.

Keynote presentations

Advancing Coastal Planning for a Sustainable Mediterranean

This keynote traces PAP/RAC's journey from early pilot projects - like Kaštela Bay, Croatia - to regional uptake of coastal planning methodologies and legislation. It highlights how long-term experience has shaped tangible results across the Mediterranean, supporting coastal regions on their path to sustainability and resilience.

Advancing the Ecosystem Approach through Marine Spatial Planning

This presentation showcases how ICZM and MSP - when guided by the ecosystem approach and regional cooperation - can transform marine and coastal governance.

Drawing on cases from Croatia and the Adriatic-Ionian sub-region, it emphasizes strategic planning, capacity building, and transboundary collaboration aligned with the Barcelona Convention.

This event relates to two Voluntary Ocean Commitments:

- **[MedProgramme #OceanAction41709](#)**: Within this project PAP/RAC is developing two coastal plans and the "Guidelines for Coastal Plans: Towards Resilience and Sustainability";
- **[#OceanAction46998](#)** on integrated marine and coastal management since coastal plans, ICZM and MSP contribute to good environmental status in the Mediterranean and to the life below water.

AGENDA

OPENING REMARKS

17:30 - 17:40

- **Ms. Anja Bagarić** (Croatia, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Green Transition, State Secretary)
- **Ms. Tatjana Hema** (UNEP/MAP, Coordinator)
- **Ms. Daria Povh Škugor** (PAP/RAC, Director)

INTRODUCTORY PRESENTATIONS

17:40 - 18:00

Advances in the Mediterranean ICZM and MSP planning

- **Ms. Daria Povh Škugor** (PAP/RAC, Director)
- **Ms. Marina Marković** (PAP/RAC, Senior Programme Officer)

PANEL DISCUSSIONS

18:00 - 18:30

Current Mediterranean initiatives contributing to ICZM & MSP efforts

Moderator: **Mr. Ante Ivčević** (PAP/RAC, Programme Officer)

Panellists:

- **Mr. Mahmoud Elyes Hamza** (SPA/RAC, Director)
- **Mr. Florent Merle** (French Biodiversity Agency, Deputy Director of European and International Relations)
- **Mr. Kamal Kishore** (UNDRR, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction)
- **Ms. Nassira Rheyati** (Morocco, Ministry of Environment, Head of the International Cooperation Division, Directorate of Partnership, Communication and Cooperation)
- **Mr. Robin Degron** (Plan Bleu, Director)
- **Ms. Tatjana Hema** (UNEP/MAP, Coordinator)

Q&A / CONCLUSIONS

18:30 - 18:45